An estimate for A.D. 618, much higher than some others, places the total at 129.45 millions. A return from 652 gives 3.8 million households, or, on the basis of 5.5 persons per household—at best a rough estimate—24.9 million individuals. One for 733 gives 7.86 million households, or, on the same basis, 43.2 million individuals, and another, for 755, 9.6 million households, or, again on the basis of 5.5 persons per unit, 52.8 million individuals. These four, all from the T?ang dynasty, reflect something of the prosperity of that period. In 1097, under the Sung, before the provinces in the North had been lost to invaders, the total population, based on households (19.4 millions) is estimated at 101.2 million persons. In Mongol times the figures indicate a population of between 55 and 60 millions. Ming figures point to a population of about the same total as under the Mongols. Under the Ch'ing, especially in the eighteenth and the early part of the nineteenth century, when the Empire was enjoying great material prosperity, the totals seem to have mounted very rapidly. Many estimates have been made, based in part upon census returns. What appears to be a fairly conservative set of figures, arising out of the studies made by Western scholars, gives the following totals:

1650	70	millions
1710	140	"
1850	342	"
1910	342	"
1930	342	"

Another set of figures, less conservative, gives the following:

1741	143,410,559
1771	214,600,356
1793	313,281,795
1800	295,237,361
1821	355,540,258
1840	412,814,828
1849	412,986,643

Government figures, giving only partial returns,

have been interpreted as showing an increase of about 7.8 per cent, between 1910 and about 1929. Estimates most carefully made by one of the universities in about 1931 and based on a variety of data, including buildings, occupied land, and the like, indicate an increase of twenty per cent, since the close of the T'ai P'ing Rebellion (1864) and of ten per cent, since 1900.